

ATSDR Record of Activity
Data Review/Response



SDMS DocID 2095171

UID #:SVW3 Date: 2 / 09 / 2007 Time: 0930 am ☒ pm

Site Name: Bally Groundwater NPL Site
City: Bally County: Berks State: Pennsylvania

CERCLIS#:PAD061105128 Cost Recovery #:30J5 Region: 3

Site Status (1) ☒ NPL ☐ Non-NPL ☐ RCRA ☐ Non-Site specific ☐ Federal
(2) ☐ Emergency Response ☐ Removal ☒ Other (Remedial/Removal)

Activities

☐ Incoming Call ☐ Public Meeting ☒ Health Consult ☐ Site Visit
☐ Outgoing Call ☐ Other Meeting ☐ Health Referral ☐ Info Provided
☐ Conference Call ☒ Data Review ☐ Written Response ☐ Other

Requestor and Affiliation: Mitch Cron, EPA RPM, 215-814-3286

Contacts and Affiliation: Lora Werner, Karl Markiewicz, Robert Helverson,
ATSDR R3

Program Areas

☐ Health Assessment ☐ Health Studies ☐ Tox Info-profile ☐ Worker Health
☐ Petition Assessment ☐ Health Surveill ☐ Tox Info-Nonprofit Admin
☐ Emergency Response ☐ Disease Registry ☐ Subst-Spec Resch ☐ Other
☒ Health Consultation ☐ Exposure Registry ☐ Health Education

Narrative Summary:

On February 5, 2006 the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ASTDR) Region 3 received a request from EPA Remedial Project Manager, Mitch Cron, requesting our assistance in evaluating some recent subslab, soil vapor and indoor air data from this site. RPM Cron met with EPA R3 management, and based on the elevated readings of TCE found in the subslab, soil gas and indoor air in the office buildings on this site, EPA plans to take an action to address this vapor intrusion pathway. However, they would like ATSDR's opinion on whether this action should occur within 6 months (under a time critical removal action) or after 6 months (under a non-time critical removal action). ATSDR R3 referred this request to ATSDR DTEM Emergency Response Duty Officers Larry Cseh and Scott Wright.

The Bally Groundwater site is a National Priority List (NPL) site. EPA is overseeing the cleanup of the contaminated groundwater at this site, which is being extracted from the ground by pumping Bally Municipal Well No. 3. The water is then passed through an air stripper which removes volatile organic compounds from the water. This treatment will continue until cleanup standards for VOCs in the groundwater are met. ATSDR cooperative agreement partner PADOH completed a 1993 Public Health Assessment and followup 2002 Health Consultation document for this site. In 2003, EPA requested additional investigation into the potential for vapor intrusion at this site. As a result, the PRP for the Site performed a vapor

intrusion investigation at nearby residential properties and also at the former Bally Engineered Structures ("BES") facility (which now houses a variety of different businesses, offices, and a Curves workout facility). EPA found that the vapor intrusion investigation has indicated that no further action is warranted at residential properties adjacent to the former BES facility. However, higher levels in subslab, soil gas and indoor air were detected in the sampling within the former BES facility; this sampling information is the subject of the current request to ATSDR. For example, a maximum of 210,000 ug/m3 TCE was detected in the soil vapor sample SV-4B on 2/27/06 in a corner of the Impress Industries business; the corresponding indoor air result from this area on 2/24/06 in IAQ-1 was 40 ug/m3 TCE. The highest indoor air readings noted in the 2006 vapor intrusion investigation sampling rounds were from IA-A-3 on 12/12/06 (490 ug/m3) and IA-A-1 on 10/12/06 (280 ug/m3); both of these results were from different parts of the Impress Industries warehousing business within the former BES facility. ATSDR notes that the only business in the complex that would not represent a typical worker exposure scenario (the Curves workout facility) had low detections of TCE in both the soil vapor (SV-8, 9.1 ug/m3 TCE on 2/28/06) and indoor air (IAQ-3A and IAQ-3B, 2.9 and 1.4 ug/m3 TCE, respectively, on 2/24/06).

Action Required/Recommendations/Info Provided:

ATSDR Emergency Response, in conjunction with ATSDR Region 3, has evaluated the recent sampling data related to vapor intrusion at the former BES facility provided by EPA. Based upon the levels indicated by the 15 indoor air samples, 15 sub-slab soil gas samples and 4 ambient air samples, ATSDR comes to the following conclusions: 1.) the indoor air levels indicated by the latest sampling results do not present an immediate threat to public health for the workers in these buildings; 2.) the results from the years 2003-2006 may be indicative of an increasing trend in the levels of TCE (primary contaminant of concern) and other VOCs in the sub-slab area of the BES facility; and 3.) the indoor air levels might be expected to increase accordingly as the sub-slab soil vapor levels increase.

ATSDR makes the following recommendations: 1.) the BES facility can be addressed by a non-time critical removal and/or remedial action; 2.) additional indoor air and subslab monitoring should be conducted on a minimum of a biannual basis in the businesses at the BES facility. Specifically, if the remedial or non-time critical removal action is not implemented until 2008, then the monitoring should be repeated in approximately May-June and November-December 2007 to verify that indoor air levels are not increasing to unacceptable occupational exposure levels; and 3.) if the levels of TCE and VOCs continue to increase, then other mitigative action timetables might be required.

ATSDR will continue to be available to evaluate and interpret any future data.

Signature: Scott V. Wright Date: 2/9/07